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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of  
PAOUL FLORENT ET AL.

Atty. Docket  
FR 000047

AUG 24 2001

Serial No. 09/855,629

Group Art Unit: 3737



Filed: MAY 15, 2001

Examiner:

Title: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, SYSTEM AND EXAMINATION APPARATUS FOR EXTRACTING A THREADLIKE STRUCTURE IN A NOISY DIGITAL IMAGE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

LETTER

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR 1.56, Applicants call to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office a Search Report issued abroad in reference to a corresponding foreign application. A copy of the Search Report dated August 14, 2001, is attached.

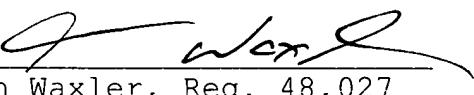
The enclosed document is being called to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office solely to comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR 1.56 and is not intended to be construed as an admission by the Applicants that any of the documents listed is material.

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Respectfully submitted,

By   
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Enc. Search Report

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

It is hereby certified that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

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On August 22, 2001  
By Valerie Nees